

Railway consisting of electrified double track from Dum Dum to Majerhat via Princephat. Part I of the proposal consisting of unelectrified single line from Dum Dum to Princephat at a cost of Rs. 35 crore was cleared by the Planning Commission.

A proposal for extension of Calcutta Circular Railway consisting of non-electrified, single line from Princephat to Majerhat for a distance of 5.5 kms. costing Rs. 49.54 crores was received in Planning Commission in September, 1994.

Since the original proposal of double track and electrification was not being taken up by Railways which amounted to major modification on the original proposal, Planning Commission in October, 1994 suggested for a revised Techno-Economic Survey and cost benefit analysis. Ministry of Railways have communicated in February, 1995 that a Techno-Economic Survey including cost benefit analysis has been taken up.

(e) and (f): A proposal was received in the Union Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment from the Government of West Bengal for extending the Metro Railway in Calcutta from Tollygunj to Garia. Various issues relating to managerial and financial aspects of the project have been taken up by the Ministry with the State Government.

[Translation]

Karnal Refinery

5241. SHRI O.P JINDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have decided to take steps for increasing the capacity of Karnal Refinery;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of SC/ST employees working in Karnal Refinery;
- (d) the number of OBC employees recruited by the Karnal Refinery as per the reservation for OBC's; and
- (e) the reservation policy of the Government to recruit persons of OBC's in various refineries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) IOC's proposal for expansion of Panipat Refinery (earlier named as Karnal Refinery) is under process for 1st stage clearance.

- (c) The details of SC/ST employees working in Panipat Refinery is as under :—

	SC	ST
Officers	24	13
Non Officers	7	—

(d) One candidate belonging to OBC has been recruited.

(e) The Policy for reservation in direct recruitment in favour of OBC candidates is being implemented in IOC.

[English]

Setting up of Power Projects

5242. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the criteria being adopted by the Union Government for acceptance of offer to foreign companies to set up power plants in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the total investment offered by the foreign companies in this regard during 1995-96 and the amount of investment out of it accepted by the Union Government;
- (c) the location and time-frame for this power plant; and
- (d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The policy formulated in 1991 to encourage private sector participation in the power sector is open to both Indian and foreign investors and applicable for setting up power projects anywhere in India, including in Tamil Nadu.

(b) No schemes for foreign investment for setting up power projects in Tamil Nadu have been cleared by the Government during 1995-96.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

Housing for Weaker Sections

5243. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount of loan sanctioned by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation to the State of Maharashtra for the construction of houses for the economically weaker sections during the last two years and the current financial year; and
- (b) whether any other schemes from the State of Maharashtra are pending with HUDCO, if so, by when these are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The loan amount sanctioned by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) to borrowing agencies in the State of Maharashtra for the construction/upgradation of houses for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and during the current year, i.e. 1996-97, is as under :—

Year	Rs. (in crores)
1994-95	18.57
1995-96	2.33
1996-97	4.99

(as on 31.7.96)

(b) No scheme under the EWS category is pending with HUDCO. Details of other scheme received from the State of Maharashtra and in the pipeline of HUDCO, are given in the Statement attached. The sanction of schemes by HUDCO is a continuous process and depends on the completion of various appraisal formalities by the borrowing agencies.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Scheme Name	Loan Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
2.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
3.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
4.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
5.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
6.	Construction of 650 Quarters for CRPF GR-IX at Amravati.	343.55
TOTAL		2333.55

* Scheme from Sl. No. 1 to 5 have been posed by Jalgaon Distt. Central Cooperative Bank Ltd.

** Scheme at Sl. No. 6 have been posed by Maharashtra Police Housing Welfare Corporation.

Wasteland Development

5244. SHRI B. DHARMABIKSHAM :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise area of wasteland in the country at present;

(b) the total extent brought under cultivation during last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage corporate sector to involve in wasteland development;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, reasons therefor;

(f) the details of the projects cleared/approved under Wasteland Development Programme during 1995-96, State-wise;

(g) the details of the project not yet cleared/approved;

(h) the reasons therefor; and

(i) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be cleared/approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No precise information about the extent of wasteland is available for the country. The National Remote Sensing Agency has done the mapping for 241 districts. The total wasteland available in the mapped districts is estimated to be 35.65 ha. Statewise position is given in Statement-I attached.

(b) Information about the extent of Land brought under cultivation is not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. From 1994-95, a Central Sector Scheme, "Investment Promotional Scheme" for involving private sector in the development of wasteland, is under implementation. The scheme is designed to facilitate/attract/channelise/mobilise resources from financial institutions, banks, corporate bodies including user industries and other entrepreneurs for development of wastelands in non-forest areas belonging to Central and State Governments, panchayats, village communities, private farmers, etc.

Under the scheme, promotional subsidy/grant is provided subject to a maximum of Rs. 25.00 lakhs of 25% of the total cost of the project as approved and firmed up by the financial institutions/banks, whichever is